

FILED

12/05/2016

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: AF 09-0688

ORIGINAL

December 2, 2016

Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court
PO Box 203003
Helena, MT 59620-3003

Re: Rules of Conduct-Rule 8.4

FILED

DEC 05 2016

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Honorable Members of the Court,

In your order of October 26, 2016 regarding case number AF 09-0688 you have called for public comment on the proposed new Rule 8.4 (g) of the professional rules of conduct for Montana Attorneys. As president of New Life Church in Montana and on behalf of the 18 ministers in our organization I submit our request that you decline the adoption of this rule.

As we by law along with all citizens have the right to legal counsel, as either plaintiff or defendant. We strongly see these rights being potentially restricted in the following ways.

We believe:

- a. Rule 8.4 could limit our ability in obtaining legal counsel if the need should arise.
- b. Rule 8.4 may encroach on an attorney's decision making process to represent us, and other citizens of our state.

It is our hope that you will say no to Rule 8.4 of the Professional Rules of Conduct, for the rights of all the people of the State of Montana

Sincerely,

Lester S. Hall
President
New Life Church